

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

---

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS  
HOSPITAL SCHOOL, *Canton (Cripples).*

AT CANTON

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1934

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE



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MASSACHUSETTS HOSPITAL SCHOOL

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ROBERT B. OSGOOD, M. D., Boston  
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BENJAMIN E. WOOD, M.D., *Senior Physician*  
A. RITCHEY STAGG, M.D., *Assistant Physician\**  
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MARY V. NEELON, R.N., *Charge Nurse*  
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NORA E. TAYLOR, *Teacher*  
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LILLIAN S. SWIMM, *Head Housekeeper*  
JOHN SMITH, *Chief Engineer*  
WALTER R. SPAULDING, *Carpenter Foreman\*\**  
JESS BLACK, *Farmer*

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BRONSON CROTHERS, M.D., *Neurology*  
H. B. C. RIEMER, M.D., *Ophthalmology*  
AUGUSTUS THORNDIKE, Jr., M. D., *Surgery*  
LEIGHTON JOHNSON, M.D., *Otolaryngology*  
HENRY GALLUP, M.D., *Pediatrics*

\* Resigned

\*\* Non-resident



## TERMS OF ADMISSION

Crippled and deformed children of the Commonwealth, between the ages of five and fifteen years, who are mentally competent to attend public schools, are eligible for admission for hospital care and educational training.

Certain state minor wards who are not insane, feeble-minded, epileptic or otherwise unfit are admitted for hospital care only.

Payment for the board of private patients must be made in advance, unless sufficient surety therefor is given.

The institution is located on Randolph Street in the town of Canton, about two miles from Canton and Canton Junction stations of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad.

Automobile bus connects with two trains at Canton Junction station on Saturdays and Sundays.

Postoffice address: Canton, Massachusetts.

Applications for admission should be made to the superintendent.

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

*To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council:*

There are so many new conditions and so many new adjustments of old relationships being made that the present may be a fitting time to review briefly some of the opportunities and obligations of the Massachusetts Hospital School.

By an Act of the Legislature of 1904, Chapter 446, the institution was established for the care and education of the crippled and deformed children of the Commonwealth. With no precedent to follow and without the assurance, even, that children known to be crippled would be entrusted to the care of an institution, a simple building program was inaugurated under the mandatory statute that provision should be made for the care of three hundred children and the necessary officials and employees. After a careful study of the problem the trustees, with the approval of the Governor and Council, decided to build the Administration Building and power plant of brick and to construct the other buildings of wood. Under this plan they were able to keep within the sum appropriated and ever since that time it has been the practice, without exception, never to exceed a grant for special purposes or for any regular maintenance appropriation. As the educational needs of crippled children in Massachusetts became better understood, new buildings have from time to time been erected in fire-proof brick construction.

None of the original wooden buildings has been given up until this year when, under Public Works Administration, we have not only seen the removal of the West Dormitory but also the substitution of two fire-proof brick cottages. These new cottages, one for boys and one for girls, group with the Ellis Cottage and unite the Assembly Hall facing the campus. The same design adopted for the Ellis Cottage is carried out in these new buildings. Each cottage is a home for thirty children with complete house-keeping facilities and is administered by three matrons. The design is the bungalow type in the form of an L planned for the hillside. One arm of the L makes the front at the campus level; the other arm extends to a point about ten feet below the campus. This condition of terrain makes possible an arrangement of kitchen, dining-room and exercising-room entirely out of ground in a basement story connecting with an easy ramp to the bedrooms and living-rooms, which are entered from the campus level. Although these cottages accommodate a considerable number of children, the general effect seems very remote from the traditional institution.

At least one of the six wooden buildings remaining, the East Dormitory, a one-story building erected twenty-seven years ago to accommodate sixty children, should be removed right away and two more brick cottages erected.



The institution has long since reached its housing capacity for employees, and if the present tendency toward the reduction of working hours continues, the Nurses' Home, a remodeled wooden building, should be removed for the substitution of a more modern arrangement in a fire-proof building. Another desirable improvement would be the erection of a fire-proof Industrial Building to replace an inexpensive wooden building of factory construction. References to the above-mentioned needs have been made in previous reports.

The trustees are much gratified to be able to report that the institution will be connected with the Metropolitan District Sewer under another P. W. A. project at an early date.

During the year just closed the income received by the Hospital School from all sources was \$94,289.28. Of this more than half, or \$48,009.98 was received as board from cities and towns, for cases having legal settlement with them. The advantages of collection through the place of parents' residence is obvious. The officers of the local boards of welfare have every opportunity to know, as no non-resident can, the economic circumstances in each case. They know what property, real estate, cars, etc., are owned in a family, and usually decide with justice whether the family is able to pay or not. Though the trustees are empowered to fix rates for private patients at any sum, they have never felt it equitable to admit private patients at less than the legally-established rate for towns. As a result, many parents prefer to arrange for payment through their local boards. We have always received helpful cooperation from the officers in charge of public welfare departments, and though parents are not obliged by law to ask the consent of their local boards, we have advised parents as a matter of courtesy to consult them before admission of a child. We have found this plan to work well in practice. When a town or city feels a responsibility and continuing interest in a boy for whose board they are paying, it is easier to enlist their cooperation when the time comes for discharge and placement. Here again the local board many times knows of openings that would not be familiar to a stranger. For the benefit of the town as well as for the individual, it is desirable that he be given every chance for self-support.

Chapter 306 of the Acts of 1922 provides that the trustees of the Massachusetts Hospital School shall be a corporation for the purpose of taking and holding by them and their successors in the name of the Commonwealth, and in accordance with the terms thereof, any grant or devise of land or any gift or bequest of money or other personal property made for the use or benefit of the school, its inmates, former inmates, or graduates, or any association thereof. The Act also provides "that in the use, management, and administration of such gifts or trusts, the trustees or agents shall, in their discretion, so act as most effectively to aid the beneficiaries in accordance with the terms of the gifts or trusts, and when so acting their judgments and determinations in extending or denying aid or benefit to any individual shall be conclusive and final." Under the authority conferred by the provisions of the above-mentioned Act, the trustees have received numerous gifts by will, and a Trustees' Endowment Fund has been established. Income from this fund has enabled the trustees to make certain expenditures for the happiness and welfare of the pupils of the school which the trustees would not ordinarily feel justified in obtaining through the regular maintenance appropriation by the legislature. A talking motion picture equipment was purchased for the Assembly Hall. Radios, pianos, playground and athletic equipment, graduation prizes and such other items as a printing press and equipment have added much to the enjoyment and education of the pupils. Twelve worthy graduates of the school also have been given financial aid in small sums which have been made possible through income from the Endowment Fund. One graduate, temporarily in straightened circumstances, applied for a loan of \$200, which he later paid with deep appreciation for the assistance which he could not have obtained elsewhere.



Another worthy graduate of the school was assisted by the payment of six months' tuition at a school at which he is making a highly creditable record. It is hoped that this fund will continue to increase as the purposes and accomplishments of the school become more widely known.

The trustees commend particularly to your attention the suggestions in the superintendent's report as to necessary development to enable the institution to perform its full service to the Commonwealth in the future as it has endeavored to do in the past.

It is especially incumbent upon this Board to recognize and honor the name of George H. Ellis, who died on May 25, 1934. Mr. Ellis, through his long life of unremitted industry and by his integrity of character and conduct, elevated public and political life in many positions and offices. In none did he find greater pleasure or keener satisfaction than as a Trustee of the Massachusetts Hospital School. His services will be an incentive to a like fidelity that in us shall meet the measure of our ability and our opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

WALTER C. BAYLIES, *Chairman*  
WILLIAM F. FITZGERALD  
ANDREW MARSHALL

ROBERT B. OSGOOD, M. D.  
ROBERT F. BRADFORD,

*Trustees*

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

*To The Trustees of The Massachusetts Hospital School, for the 27th Year  
Ending November 30, 1934:*

Aside from the daily routine of administering to the welfare of 578 children who were under treatment during the year, the most important items to be recorded took place under the

### NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL RECOVERY ACT.

The school responded to the request to provide some relief for the unemployed by recommending work which under ordinary circumstances would have been done from time to time by regular employees over a much longer period. This work, designated as Civil Works Administration projects, involved an expenditure by the Commonwealth of \$1,098.03, and by the Federal Government of \$7,477.17. Under this provision for labor and materials, the schoolhouse was painted inside and out; other outside painting included the pergola sides and the cornice and trim of the Administration Building and Infirmary. The inside walls of the engine room, apparatus shop, garage and basement of the Administration Building were well covered with aluminum paint. Weather conditions were unfavorable for more outside painting but the Girls' Cottage was thoroughly done inside, as were the main kitchen, the congregate dining-room, lecture-room and laboratory.

A four-inch drain pipe was laid from the boiler-room blow-off tank southeast a distance of 676 feet. About forty acres of land were cleared of sprout growth brush. Many of the men sent to do this common labor under C. W. A. were unaccustomed to such work and the stumpage, unless removed in a few years, will sprout another growth of brush. However, a seasonal fire menace temporarily has been removed. Under C. W. A. local men, badly in need of employment, have been paid for 11,031½ hours of labor.

It is gratifying to report that two paramount necessities have been met under the combined authority of the State and Federal Government as Public Works Administration projects. The old West Dormitory, poorly designed, cheaply constructed and inadequate in many important particulars, has been removed and two 30-bed cottage units, exact duplicates of the Ellis Cottage, have been erected, one on the site of the old building and the other just south of the Assembly Hall. Your request for an appropriation of \$100,000 for the two cottages was answered by a grant of \$115,000.



Following many preliminary details, bids for the two cottages, designated as Projects C-4 & C-5, Docket No. 2347, were opened on March 29, 1934. Eight contractors submitted bids and the award for both cottages was made to the lowest bidder, the Matthew Cummings Company, for \$87,000. Work was begun promptly and the contract completed on October 10, 1934. It has been necessary to grant an extension of time for the fulfillment of other contracts for furnishings and movable equipment, much of which was made to order on short time, but, as this report is written, it seems probable that the new cottages will be ready for occupancy early in the new year. Under this appropriation there will be a substantial unexpended balance.

In my report of last year reference was made to the urgent need for connection with the Metropolitan Sewer. A grant of \$71,000 was also made under Public Works Administration for the Sewer Project C-9, Docket No. 4973. Proposals for building the sewer were opened on August 28, 1934. Eight contractors submitted bids and the award also was made to the lowest bidder, John Williams and Company, for \$37,373.

#### ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES

There were in the institution on November 30, 1933, 300 children, 271 crippled children and 29 sick minor wards. There have been admitted 276 patients, 62 crippled children and 214 sick minor wards. The whole number under treatment during the year was 578, 335 crippled children and 243 sick minor wards. The maximum number of children at any one time was 309, and the minimum 160. The average daily number for the year was 272.56. The average daily enrollment, which includes children who are temporarily absent on visit, was 299.74.

#### ADMISSIONS

The admissions for the year, as compared to the record a year ago, show an increase of 6 in the school group of crippled children and a decrease of 78 in the number of sick minor wards entered for hospital care only. It is not known whether fewer children have come into the care of the Division of Child Guardianship of the State Department of Public Welfare, whether there has been less sickness among state minor wards, or whether the treatment of a large number of children for diseases of the skin and tonsillar affections, which required so much of our time in the years past, are factors in bringing about these favorable signs.

While the numbers of crippled children remain fairly constant with slight variation from year to year, it is hoped that legislative authority (General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 46A, as amended by Acts of 1930, Chapter 369), providing for home teaching for crippled children, will lessen the demands which are made upon the school to admit those who are neither physically nor mentally promising for training toward a life of usefulness. Every year a few applications are received for the admission of children who never can be removed from lives of complete dependency. Occasionally the parents of such children, who are unable to provide adequate home care, are unalterably opposed to the suggestion of a home for incurables or an institution for the care of chronic cases. When a bed-ridden paralytic child with extreme congenital deformities, no control over bladder or bowel function, and no muscle power or sensation below the waist is brought to the school with a pathetic plea for care and training in the expectation that the child may become proficient in some trade or useful occupation, the problem is a difficult one.

In similar cases where appropriate home care is possible, the best solution of the problem may be found through home teaching. Crippled children who are not susceptible of improvement should be made as comfortable and happy as possible and taught to read and obtain other pleasures, but they should not be permitted to obstruct the progress of those who, under conditions adapted to their disabilities, may be relieved of the burden of their



handicap. The hearty and long-continued cooperation of the Director of Child Guardianship has been most helpful, particularly with reference to the law which provides that no child who is feeble-minded, epileptic, or otherwise unfit shall be admitted. Neither the urgent need for the hospitalization of young women with gonorrheal infection, nor necessity for the care of confirmed invalids, has brought pressing demands upon us for the admission of patients whose influence would be prejudicial to the welfare of young children. Borderline cases have been admitted, but any who have been given the benefit of doubt, and after a reasonable period of observation found to be feeble-minded or otherwise unfit, have been removed without question for more appropriate classification elsewhere.

The average age of the crippled children enrolled during the year was 10 years, 9 months and 10 days; the youngest 2 years, 6 months and 26 days, and the oldest 17 years, 8 months and 27 days. The youngest minor ward admitted for hospital care was 4 months and 28 days; the oldest 20 years, 10 months and 16 days, and the average 10 years, 2 months and 13 days.

Provisional diagnoses for which patients have been referred to us during the year are shown by the following table:

# DIAGNOSIS ON ADMISSION

## School Department

	Boys	Girls	Total
Abrasion on dorsum of foot . . . . .	—	1	1
Anterior poliomyelitis . . . . .	6	7	13
Apophysitis of os calcis . . . . .	1	—	1
Arthritis . . . . .	—	3	3
Arthritis; sprain of wrist . . . . .	—	1	1
Back Strain . . . . .	—	1	1
Brachial palsy . . . . .	1	—	1
Chondroma of toe . . . . .	1	—	1
Cicatricial deformities . . . . .	—	1	1
Congenital club foot . . . . .	2	—	2
Congenital club hands . . . . .	1	—	1
Congenital deformities . . . . .	1	—	1
Coxa plana; coxa valga . . . . .	1	—	1
Dislocated shoulder; asthma . . . . .	1	—	1
Encephalitis . . . . .	1	—	1
Epiphyseal dystrophy . . . . .	1	1	2
Fracture of femur . . . . .	1	—	1
Fracture of femur; knock-knee . . . . .	1	—	1
Fracture of fibula . . . . .	1	—	1
Fracture of ramus ischii . . . . .	—	1	1
Fracture of tibia, old . . . . .	1	—	1
Hallux rigidus . . . . .	—	1	1
Kyphosis . . . . .	—	1	1
Legg's disease . . . . .	1	—	1
Osteogenesis imperfecta . . . . .	1	—	1
Osteomyelitis . . . . .	7	1	8
Scoliosis . . . . .	—	2	2
Scoliosis, congenital . . . . .	—	1	1
Spastic paralysis . . . . .	5	2	7
Spinal cord birth injury . . . . .	1	—	1
Tuberculosis of hip . . . . .	—	1	1
Undiagnosed . . . . .	—	1	1
	36	26	62

*Hospital Department*

Abscess of Bartholin's gland . . . . .	—	1	1
Appendicitis, chronic . . . . .	—	1	1
Asthma . . . . .	2	1	3
Chorea . . . . .	—	1	1
Chorea; tonsils and adenoids, diseased . . . . .	—	1	1
Congenital absence of pectoral muscles, otitis media . . . . .	1	—	1
Congenital defect of jaw . . . . .	1	—	1
Debility; tonsils and adenoids, diseased . . . . .	—	1	1
Deviated septum, nasal . . . . .	1	—	1
Dysmenorrhea, spasmodic . . . . .	—	1	1
Eczema . . . . .	—	2	2
Endocarditis . . . . .	1	2	3
Endocarditis; flat feet . . . . .	1	—	1
Enuresis . . . . .	3	1	4
Epilepsy . . . . .	1	—	1
Fecal Fistula . . . . .	1	—	1
Foreign body, subcutaneous . . . . .	1	—	1
Furunculosis . . . . .	1	—	1
Hematoma of skull . . . . .	1	—	1
Hemophilia . . . . .	1	—	1
Hernia, inguinal . . . . .	2	—	2
Impetigo . . . . .	2	3	5
Impetigo; pediculosis . . . . .	—	1	1
Impetigo; tonsils and adenoids, diseased . . . . .	1	1	2
Inanition . . . . .	1	—	1
Infection of heel . . . . .	1	—	1
Interstitial keratitis; tonsils and adenoids, diseased . . . . .	—	1	1
Intestinal toxemia . . . . .	—	1	1
Otitis media . . . . .	1	1	2
Paronychia, multiple . . . . .	—	1	1
Pediculosis . . . . .	—	1	1
Pelvic inflammation . . . . .	—	1	1
Phimosis . . . . .	1	—	1
Pyelitis . . . . .	—	4	4
Pyelitis; inanition . . . . .	—	1	1
Rhinitis, atrophic . . . . .	1	—	1
Rhinitis, chronic; tonsils and adenoids, diseased . . . . .	1	—	1
Scabies . . . . .	7	2	9
Scabies; enuresis . . . . .	1	—	1
Scabies; hordeolum . . . . .	—	1	1
Scabies; pediculosis . . . . .	—	2	2
Syphilis, congenital . . . . .	4	1	5
Syphilis, congenital; enuresis; scabies . . . . .	1	—	1
Tinea circinata . . . . .	1	—	1
Tonsil enlarged . . . . .	1	—	1
Tonsillar remains . . . . .	1	1	2
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased . . . . .	53	52	105
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; cervical adenitis . . . . .	1	—	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; congenital valvular heart disease . . . . .	—	1	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; pediculosis . . . . .	—	1	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; rickets . . . . .	1	—	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; vulvo-vaginitis . . . . .	—	1	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; enuresis . . . . .	1	—	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; hematuria . . . . .	—	1	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; hernia, inguinal . . . . .	1	—	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; otitis media . . . . .	—	1	1



Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; phimosis . . . . .	1	—	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; vulvo-vaginitis			
gonorrheal . . . . .	—	1	1
Vincent's angina . . . . .	—	1	1
Vulvo-vaginitis . . . . .	—	10	10
Vulvo-vaginitis, gonorrheal . . . . .	—	7	7
Vulvo-vaginitis, gonorrheal; syphilis, congenital . . . . .	—	1	1
Vulvo-vaginitis; syphilis, congenital . . . . .	—	1	1
	101	113	214

## NATIVITY AND PARENTAGE OF CHILDREN ADMITTED

<i>Birthplace</i>	Patient	Father	Mother
Massachusetts . . . . .	235	87	111
Other New England States . . . . .	17	21	25
Other States . . . . .	13	21	20
Total Native . . . . .	265	129	156
<i>Other Countries:</i>			
Armenia . . . . .	—	1	—
Austria . . . . .	—	—	1
Azores . . . . .	—	2	1
Barbadoes . . . . .	1	—	1
Canada . . . . .	2	19	37
Cape Verde Islands . . . . .	—	3	2
Czechoslovakia . . . . .	—	1	1
England . . . . .	—	4	2
Greece . . . . .	—	2	—
Ireland . . . . .	—	5	7
Italy . . . . .	1	8	8
Lithuania . . . . .	—	4	4
Madeira Islands . . . . .	—	1	4
Newfoundland . . . . .	1	1	3
Norway . . . . .	—	2	1
Poland . . . . .	—	9	6
Portugal . . . . .	—	3	4
Russia . . . . .	—	5	4
Scotland . . . . .	—	4	4
Sweden . . . . .	—	1	—
Syria . . . . .	—	1	2
West Indies . . . . .	—	1	1
Total Foreign . . . . .	5	77	95
Unknown . . . . .	6	70	27
	276	276	276

## HOME VISITS

The increased use of the automobile, with more convenient facilities of transportation, has led to a decided increase in the number of requests to take children home for Saturdays and Sundays and holiday visits. While such visits have the advantage of strengthening home ties and generally have not been discouraged, they tend to lower the average number and correspondingly increase our per capita cost. More than 150 children have been absent for such special occasions as Thanksgiving and Christmas, and a comparatively large, though smaller number, have been able to enjoy less important holidays in their homes. Since October 10, 1934, when our West Dormitory was removed and the new cottages were in process of construction, it has been necessary to delay the admission of a small number of boys whose names have been placed upon the waiting-list.

## DISCHARGES

The discharges numbered 310, 80 crippled children and 230 sick minor wards, leaving in the institution at the end of the year 268, of whom 255 were crippled children and 13 were sick minor wards. Children from the school department were discharged for the following reasons: 32 had recovered, 15 were much improved, 12 were improved, 2 were unimproved, 6 were mentally unpromising, 4 were taken against advice, 2 were discharged at the age of twenty-one, 2 were taken ill while at home on visit and never regained sufficient strength to be returned, and 5 children died from the following causes: One from tumor of the spinal cord; one from tuberculous pneumonia; one from chronic myocarditis; one from multiple osteomyelitis with amyloid disease; and one from bronchopneumonia. Two hundred thirty sick minor wards were discharged with a record of recovery in 161 cases; 24 were much improved, 32 were improved, 11 were unimproved, and 2 were discharged as mentally incompetent.

As one whose work takes her into the homes of many children, both before their admission and after they have left the school, the Supervisor of Teaching and Community Service reports from broad personal experience as follows:

## SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT

*To the Superintendent:*

Distressing economic conditions still continue to affect our graduates. When millions of young men and women in our country find it hard to gain a place in the business and industrial life of the world, though well in body and highly trained in mind, the handicapped worker is even more at a disadvantage. Perhaps our present condition serves to bring into clearer light the need of closer thought and reciprocal action between the school that trains and the society that must place the young seeker for a job. As all careful observers of handicapped workers know, the employer needs to be convinced of the ability of a one-legged or one-armed applicant, and to become willing to cooperate in giving him what he asks, the opening of the door of opportunity.

Many of our graduates leave to go on with their education in high or vocational school. One boy who was very helpful as a volunteer office worker while at the school, has just been elected president of his class for the fourth year in a neighboring high school, and is finishing his senior year with good prospects of employment. A girl who was a member of our secretarial class, and who is very heavily handicapped, last June received her diploma from the stenographic course at the Burdett Business College. She has been employed at the same time that she was studying. The foundation for the education of all our physically qualified girls is a good practical domestic training. This has served many of them in good stead, and some are self-supporting in desirable home positions. Even a degree of handicap which prevents a girl from taking our cottage training does not always keep her from making herself useful. Two of our discharged girls this year were permanently and extensively crippled with arthritis. Yet they had both become skilled in handwork, one in sewing, and one in basketry. The second has been able to do well in making trays upon order. While neither of these girls is wholly self-supporting, both make themselves useful in the world.

Stability in positions seems characteristic of our graduates. Some have, through no fault of their own, been thrown out of employment through the bankruptcy of long-established firms, but most of the older ones are adjusting well to changed circumstances. One graduate writes in a recent issue of the Alumni magazine concerning the yearly reunion, "We all know that a great many of our members have experienced serious setbacks and losses due to present economic conditions but nevertheless are still able to smile



and spread good cheer to others. It really is a wonderful achievement to be able to smile in spite of adversity." Their morale is generally high, and most are carrying on with courage.

The death of Mr. George H. Ellis of the Board of Trustees was felt as a personal loss by the many pupils with whom he had come in contact. For ten years he had meant much to them. He showed his interest by frequent visits, and his cheery smile was known and loved by all. His fatherly words of counsel gave an added value to the diplomas which many successive graduating classes have received at his hands. Almost his last public appearance was when he came to be present with the class of 1934 at their May breakfast and tree-planting, as he had been the year before when the class dedicated a tree to him. The inspiration of his presence will be long remembered.

Our pupils come from all parts of the State, and must be discharged when they are no longer children, or at the age of 21. As a matter of fact, the average age upon discharge is much lower than this. It was in 1934 about 11 years, which is much under the limit of compulsory school age. This means that sooner or later, our crippled children must go back into the communities from which they came. It is important for any school to gain the friendship and good-will of the public, and this we try to do. Year by year it is pleasant to receive the evidences of regard from a constantly increasing list of friends. Fifty-five churches, synagogues, fraternal organizations, women's clubs and individual givers made presents to the School during the year, not counting the large number who gave personally to the pupils. We value and try to deserve the feeling that sends a man in one of the brotherhoods back for eleven years in succession to give a happy Christmas party to our girls and boys, or leads a good neighbor to send her large car summer after summer to take our little children out on trips. One of our happiest annual parties keeps alive the memory of a good friend no longer living. Many of our Christmas givers take much time and thought in adapting their presents to children whose names and ages they secure from us. It is in such ways as these that links between school and community are kept strong, and we appreciate more than we can say the kindness of our friends.

Our Alumni Association continues strong. The June reunion and dinner at the School brought this year about 150 guests. To quote the member previously mentioned, "I did not notice any groups gathered together to discuss and bemoan the hard times, but rather everyone seemed to be too busy meeting old friends and having a good time generally to think about any private difficulties or hardships." We also find valuable the close association with the Industrial School in Boston, and the field day held on our grounds one day last summer gave pleasure to members from both groups.

All holidays have been appropriately celebrated under the leadership of the School Department. The pupils of the eighth grade have their organization for transaction of class business under parliamentary rules, and their officers and committees render valuable service in the social life of our children. Through pupil initiative, the birthday of the President, January 30, was observed by a well-attended party at the Assembly Hall, and by means of voluntary contributions a substantial check was sent to the Warm Springs Foundation for the aid of victims of infantile paralysis. The class play this year was an amusing comedy. The annual exhibition of school work and reception to the parents was largely attended for several days, and the pupils were proud to entertain their relatives and show them about the buildings.



The total number of pupils registered in our classes through June, 1934, was 268. The distribution in class appears in the following table:

	Average membership	Average daily attendance	Per cent of attendance
Grades 7-8-graduate . . . . .	59+	57+	96
Grades 4-5-6 . . . . .	54+	52+	96%
Grades 2-3 . . . . .	47+	45+	96½
Grades 1—sub-primary . . . . .	34+	32+	95 4/5
Special ungraded . . . . .	39+	38+	96 2/5

The graduation exercises were held on June 29. Dr. Robert B. Osgood of the Board of Trustees conferred diplomas upon a class of twenty. The exercises had for subject, "Good Citizenship." This was portrayed through essays and a short play, showing the process of the naturalization of a new citizen. Our pupils represent in their backgrounds almost every racial strain making up our State and Nation. Their association during their formative years with others of differing ancestry and beliefs appears to result in a spirit of toleration and cooperation.

An addition to the exercises this year was the conferring of the Gregg diploma in stenography, which was given to three girls who have proved themselves competent clerical workers. As volunteer assistants in our office, they have given much valuable help in extensive additional work made necessary by our Federal projects. The quality and spirit of our school work has been excellent, and pupils and teachers have worked in the spirit of the class motto of 1934, "Not for self, but for all."

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH PARK, *Social Worker.*

#### THE MEDICAL SERVICE

The medical service has been equitably divided into two practically equal assignments for each senior physician. Dr. Kemp and Dr. Wood have been given immediate charge, respectively, of the division for girls and the division for boys. Their efficient service and long experience merited this equality of duties and responsibilities, and by their hearty cooperation and an occasional interchange of service each is familiar with the condition of the other's patients. This arrangement safeguards the interests of every child in the temporary absence of either senior physician. With the assistance of a capable house-officer, well trained in laboratory technique, and the expert advice of a Board of Consultants, every medical and surgical problem should receive thorough consideration as a guide to the best treatment with the surest promise of cure and alleviation.

#### THE NURSING SERVICE

The nursing service has been strengthened by the addition of more graduate nurses who, on account of the depression, have been glad to fill the places of untrained assistants as vacancies occurred. The daily application and adjustment of hundreds of pieces of orthopedic appliances, in addition to such ordinary nursing care as dressing, feeding, bathing and supervising crippled children, make heavier demands on our nurses than is generally appreciated.

Hospital routine, a master we can hardly do without, has been made less burdensome through the stimulating influence of the members of the Board of Consultants, whose regular visits have been most helpful and encouraging.

During the year the following operations have been performed: Appendectomy 3; arthrodesis of ankle 1; arthrodesis of 1st toe 1; circumcision 4; closed reduction of congenital dislocation of hip, single, 1; curettage of enchondroma of 1st toe 1; incision and drainage for peritonitis (employee) 1; incision and drainage of abscess of ankle 1; incision and drainage of abscess of groin 1; incision and drainage of peritonsillar abscess (employee) 1;



manipulation of elbow 1; manipulation of club foot 1; myotomy for torticollis 1; Nicola operation for recurrent dislocation of shoulder 1; osteotomy and tenotomy for double club foot 1; osteotomy of femur 1; osteotomy for hallux rigidus 1; paracentesis of ear 1; radical cure of inguinal hernia 2; radical cure of inguinal hernia, double, 1; ranulotomy 1; reamputation of arm 1; reamputation of leg 1; reduction of fractured femora 1; repair of fecal fistula 1; repair of multiple lacerations of penis 1; submucous resection of nasal septum 1; suturing of incised wound of face 1; tenotomy of hamstrings 1; tonsillectomy and adenectomy 126; triple arthodesis of paralytic equinovarus 1.

Early in the year a scarlet fever immunization program was carried out in cooperation with Dr. Roy F. Feemster of the Biological Laboratories of the State Department of Public Health. All the children for whom we were able to obtain parental authority were tested for their susceptibility to scarlet fever, and those who were found positive were given three injections of scarlet fever toxoid. Four weeks after the third inoculation the children who had been treated were retested to discover how many had been immunized by the three treatments. A summary of the preliminary Dick test and the first retest is shown in the following table.

Age Group	Preliminary Dick Test			Retest after three inoculations		
	Total Tested	Number Positive	Per cent Positive	Total Tested	Number Negative	Per cent Negative
0 - 4 .....	9	4	44	3	3	100
5 - 9 .....	51	15	29	15	9	60
10-14 .....	104	31	30	26	19	73
15 and over .....	70	20	20	17	10	59
Totals .....	234	70	30	61	41	67

Those remaining positive at the first retest were reinoculated. It will be of interest to note the results of retests which will be made the coming year.

As a routine practice our patients are immunized for smallpox, diphtheria and typhoid fever. Although we have not been able to successfully combat other infections and contagious diseases, especially measles, whooping-cough and chicken-pox, the institution has been especially fortunate during the past year in having but one reportable case. One case of diphtheria was sent to us unrecognized until the diagnosis was made a few hours after admission.

#### DENTAL REPORT

Of the 243 patients examined 124 were found to have no caries at time of examination; in 50 the treatment was classed as less urgent and usually consisted of small pits and fissures, the importance of which led us to devote considerable time to the treatment of these conditions; 69, most of whom were newly admitted cases for hospital care only, required immediate attention, frequently in the nature of multiple extractions. As a result of the careful follow-up work of our dental hygienist, we have been able to devote more time to pulp devitalization in both deciduous and permanent teeth, and this is being followed by X-ray examination from time to time to check the results. Each child receives dental prophylaxis at least once every three months and if there is found to be any mouth condition requiring medical or dental attention, the patient is immediately referred to the physician in charge, or the dentist, or both as the condition may demand. The dental hygienist also holds frequent tooth-brush drills, and one of the important duties of our nursing staff is to supervise the regular and proper brushing of teeth. This program of dental care has achieved most gratifying results and has made it possible for our dentist to devote more time to some of the important branches of dentistry, especially orthodontia.

Dental operations are recorded as follows: 400 amalgam fillings; 232 cement and amalgam fillings; 45 synthetic fillings; 56 zinc oxide fillings; 32



cement fillings; 113 wax amalgam fillings; 57 Kryptex fillings; 13 root canal fillings; 214 extractions; 74 X-rays; 245 treatments; 12 fissures polished; 3 impressions taken; 2 space retainers cemented; 3 bridges cemented; 253 patients examined; 1552 prophylaxis; 35 gum treatments.

#### PHYSIOTHERAPY

Increasing effort is being made to apply measures of physical therapeutics in the broadest sense of the term. Whenever our physiotherapist's time is not wholly occupied in baking, massage, the use of the ultra-violet ray and the direction of graduated exercises in special cases, she directs other equally important, if less impressive, physical activities on the playgrounds. Our provision for physiotherapy is reasonably good as a foundation, but additional equipment, especially of baths and a swimming tank, should be forthcoming if we are to keep up to date with the popular demand.

#### FINANCIAL

Income from all sources for the year amounted to \$94,289.28 as compared to \$70,081.28 last year. This increase of \$24,208 in income is due principally to variation from year to year in the date of payment for the care of state minor wards. Income for the board of private patients was reduced from \$849.45 in 1933 to \$481.09 this year, while income from cities and towns for the corresponding years was more by \$2,056.68, or increased from \$45,953.30 last year to \$48,009.98 this year. An increase in the cost of such important items as coal, food and clothing brought us close to a deficiency in our maintenance appropriation, but the decrease in the number of patients under treatment made it possible to close the year with a small unexpended balance without lowering our standards. There was a slight shrinkage in inventory. Expenditures for the year amounted to \$170,973.80 which, divided by 272.56, the daily average number of patients, gives a weekly per capita cost of \$12.0302.

#### PERSONNEL

There have been fewer changes in personnel than for many previous years. All employees have made a notable effort to hold their positions even with the reduction of pay, rather than face the uncertainty of obtaining employment elsewhere. After two years of creditable service, Dr. A. Ritchey Stagg resigned on August 31, 1934. His successor has not yet been appointed. Mrs. Stagg, who has been a helpful member of our office force, also resigned on the same date, and she was succeeded by a promising clerical assistant, Miss Eleanor Lynch. With the greatest stability of service it became necessary to give a vacation leave of absence to a larger number of employees. Therefore, additional demands were made upon those who remained to carry on the work of the institution without the employment of temporary substitutes. In fairness to those who make up our quota of 127 employees, it should be recorded that almost without exception they have shown a most commendable loyalty and devotion to the service for which they were employed.

In recent months there has been a marked tendency to reduce the hours of labor in industry. Although our employees have shown no indication of restlessness and none is believed to be overworked, doubtless many have questioned whether their sixty hours per week of exacting service should not be reduced to conform to the spirit of the times. In considering any possible reduction in the number of working hours of our employees, it should be borne in mind that no such change could be made without increased housing facilities. If financial resources were available for new buildings and the policy of shorter working hours adopted, I would recommend that the old Infirmary, which was remodeled twelve years ago for a Nurses' Home, be taken down and a fire-proof building, more compact but with larger housing capacity, be erected.



## FARM AND GROUNDS

The drought of the past summer seriously affected our crops. High-grade Guernsey cows produced 121,048 quarts of milk at an estimated cost of \$.0643 per quart, and the henery returned 9,421 dozen eggs and 6,627 pounds of dressed poultry at an estimated profit of \$1,535.07. The farm was credited with 6,544 pounds of dressed pork and 4,208 pounds of dressed beef and showed a profit of \$7,573.24 for the year, including the value of labor of men and teams for such work as harvesting ice, the removal of rubbish, building roads and the care of the grounds.

## PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS

References have been made in previous reports to the desirability of replacing some of our original wooden buildings with more substantial fire-proof construction, and now that the West Dormitory has been removed, its companion building, the East Dormitory, is the most conspicuous replacement need in our rebuilding program.

Next in importance in undesirableness would appear to be the Industrial Building, which has long since served its purpose. This inexpensive building of factory-type construction was erected in the early days of the institution when the educational needs of crippled children were in the experimental stage. The original cost of this building was but slightly more than \$6,000, and the simple industries and handcraft, which we have found by experience to be most desirable for crippled children in the grammar school grades, would be much more appropriately housed in a smaller and more compact building of fire-proof construction.

Unlike almost every other institution in the Commonwealth, we have no adequate cold-storage facilities. It would be comparatively inexpensive to provide for appropriate storerooms and a modern refrigeration plant in connection with a new Industrial Building adjacent to the power plant, readily accessible to the general kitchen and other departments which draw upon the storeroom for perishable supplies.

Failure to place greater emphasis upon the above-mentioned needs than has been given in previous reports is not due to any lack of appreciation of such needs but rather to the importance of other issues which have been consistent with the State's financial policy and the ways and means available. While there is no question as to the desirability of the above-mentioned improvements, it is gratifying to hear from scores of visitors that progress in the care and training of crippled children in Massachusetts has been advanced beyond the point thus far reached in many other states.

The sad news of the death on May 25, 1934, of our beloved Trustee, the Honorable George H. Ellis, cast a shadow over the Hospital School, for to him children and employees alike looked for counsel and advice. We felt almost at a loss how to proceed without the encouragement of his friendly countenance and the inspiration of his noble character.

On the whole, although there are many problems confronting the institution, the year closes with much to encourage. Some of the old needs have been met and other difficulties are being cleared away for advance to better standards and attainment.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN E. FISH, M. D.

*Superintendent.*

## STATISTICS

## CENSUS

	School Department	Hospital Department	Total
November 30, 1933 . . . . .	271	29	300
Admitted during year . . . . .	62	214	276
Returned from visit of last year . . . . .	2	—	2
Whole number under treatment . . . . .	335	243	578
Discharged . . . . .	80	230	310
November 30, 1934 . . . . .	255	13	268
	Yrs. Mos. Days	Yrs. Mos. Days	
Average age of admissions . . . . .	10 9 10	10 2 13	
Youngest . . . . .	2 6 26	— 4 28	
Oldest . . . . .	17 8 27	20 10 16	
Average Daily Number Present . . . . .	249.04	23.52	
Average Daily Enrollment . . . . .	299.74		

## TREASURER'S REPORT

*To the Trustees of the Massachusetts Hospital School:*

I respectfully submit the following report of the finances of this institution for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1934:

*Receipts*

Income	
Board of inmates . . . . .	\$93,666.65
Personal Services:	
Reimbursement from Board of Retirement . . . . .	75.00
Sales . . . . .	330.30
Rent . . . . .	152.00
Refunds, account of previous years . . . . .	64.33
Emergency Relief . . . . .	1.00
	\$94,289.28
Receipts from Treasury of Commonwealth:	
Advance fund . . . . .	\$13,000.00
Maintenance appropriation . . . . .	109,518.02
	122,518.02
Total . . . . .	\$216,807.30

*Payments*

To Treasury of Commonwealth . . . . .	\$94,224.95
Maintenance appropriation . . . . .	109,518.02
Advance Fund . . . . .	13,000.00
Refunds, account of previous years . . . . .	64.33
	\$216,807.30

*Maintenance*

Appropriation current year . . . . .	\$177,241.56
Expenses as analyzed below . . . . .	170,973.80
	\$6,267.76

Total receipts and payments are in agreement with Comptroller's books of accounts.

*Analysis of Expenses*

Personal service . . . . .	\$108,751.96
Food . . . . .	16,761.27
Medical and general care . . . . .	5,469.30
Farm . . . . .	9,640.61
Heat and other plant operations . . . . .	13,607.06
Garage, stable and grounds . . . . .	933.39
Travel, transportation and office expenses . . . . .	2,492.81
Religious instruction . . . . .	1,382.67
Clothing and material . . . . .	3,537.83
Furnishings and household supplies . . . . .	4,452.15
Repairs—ordinary . . . . .	3,484.04
Renewals . . . . .	460.71
Total expenses for maintenance . . . . .	\$170,973.80



## EMERGENCY PUBLIC WORKS

	Appropriation Expended	
Cottage for Boys }		
Cottage for Girls }		
Sewer . . . . .	\$115,480.00	\$77,006.72
	71,100 00	25,182.72
	<hr/>	
	\$186,580.00	
Expended during year . . . . .		\$102,189.44
Balance November 30, 1934 . . . . .	\$84,390.56	

## PER CAPITA

During the year the average number of inmates has been 272.56.

Total cost for maintenance, \$170,973.80.

Equal to a weekly per capita cost of \$12.0443

Receipts from sales, \$330.30.

Equal to a weekly per capita cost of \$.023.

All other institution receipts, \$93,958.98.

Equal to a weekly per capita cost of \$6.6108

Net weekly per capita cost, \$5.4105

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN E. FISH, M.D.

Treasurer.

## VALUATION.

November 30, 1934

## REAL ESTATE

Land, 165.72 acres . . . . .	\$41,806.00
Buildings . . . . .	712,839.36
	<hr/>
	\$754,645.36

## PERSONAL PROPERTY

Travel, transportation and office expenses	\$ 39.57
Food	1,709.01
Clothing and materials	2,981.52
Furnishings and household supplies	61,701.97
Medical and general care	12,605.30
Heat and other plant operation	470.33
Farm	19,782.54
Garage and grounds	4,786.41
Repairs	5,335.97
	<hr/>
	\$109,412.62

## SUMMARY

Real Estate . . . . .	\$754,645.36
Personal property . . . . .	109,412.62
	<hr/>
	\$864,057.98







